UNTOLD STORIES:
BIRMINGHAM'S WOUNDED SOLDIERS FROM WW1

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By 1919, over

125,000

soldiers from Britain and across the world had been treated at hospitals in Birmingham.

IMAGE CREDITS

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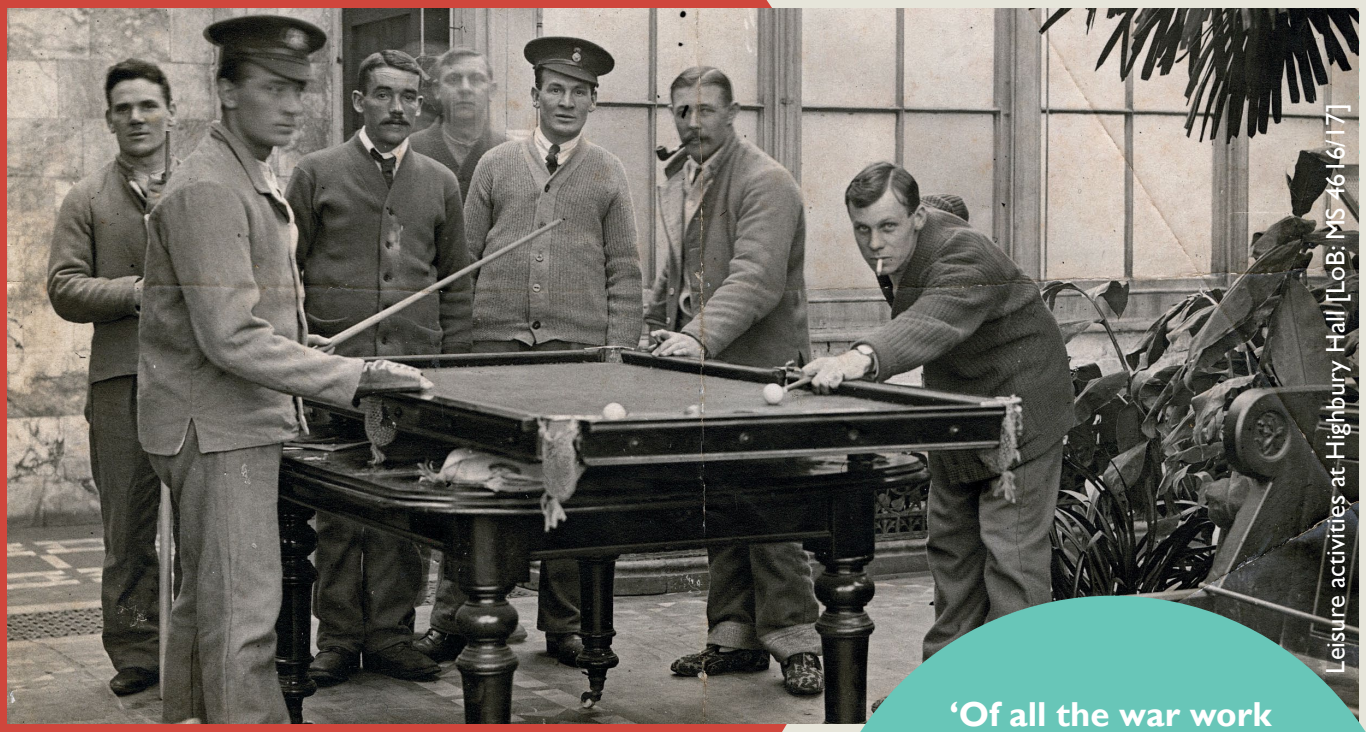
Photographs courtesy of Rachel Gilles.
Graphic design by Brigitte Winsor.

The Great Hall, University of Birmingham, fitted out as a hospital ward [LoB: WK/E1/113]



Leisure activities at Highbury Hall [LoB: MS 4616/17]

INTRODUCTION

Overview of healthcare provision in Birmingham

'Of all the war work in which the citizens of Birmingham participated there is none of which they have more reason to be proud of that performed on behalf of those broken in the country's service'.

Reginald Brazier & Ernest Sanford, *Birmingham and the Great War 1914-1919*

In Birmingham, the treatment of the wounded focused on the University buildings at Edgbaston and was supplemented by a variety of voluntary organisations and auxiliary hospitals.

The 1st Southern General had been founded in 1908 as a Territorial General Hospital and was prepared to be used in the event of war. The order to mobilise was given on 4 August 1914 and by 1 September the first convoy of 120 patients arrived. By the end of 1914, the hospital had expanded to 800 beds and 3,892 patients had been received. The 2/1st Southern General was established at Dudley Road Infirmary in May 1915. In one month alone 2,449 patients were admitted. A department for the fitting of limbless patients was instituted for a time and later on a special jaw department was set up.

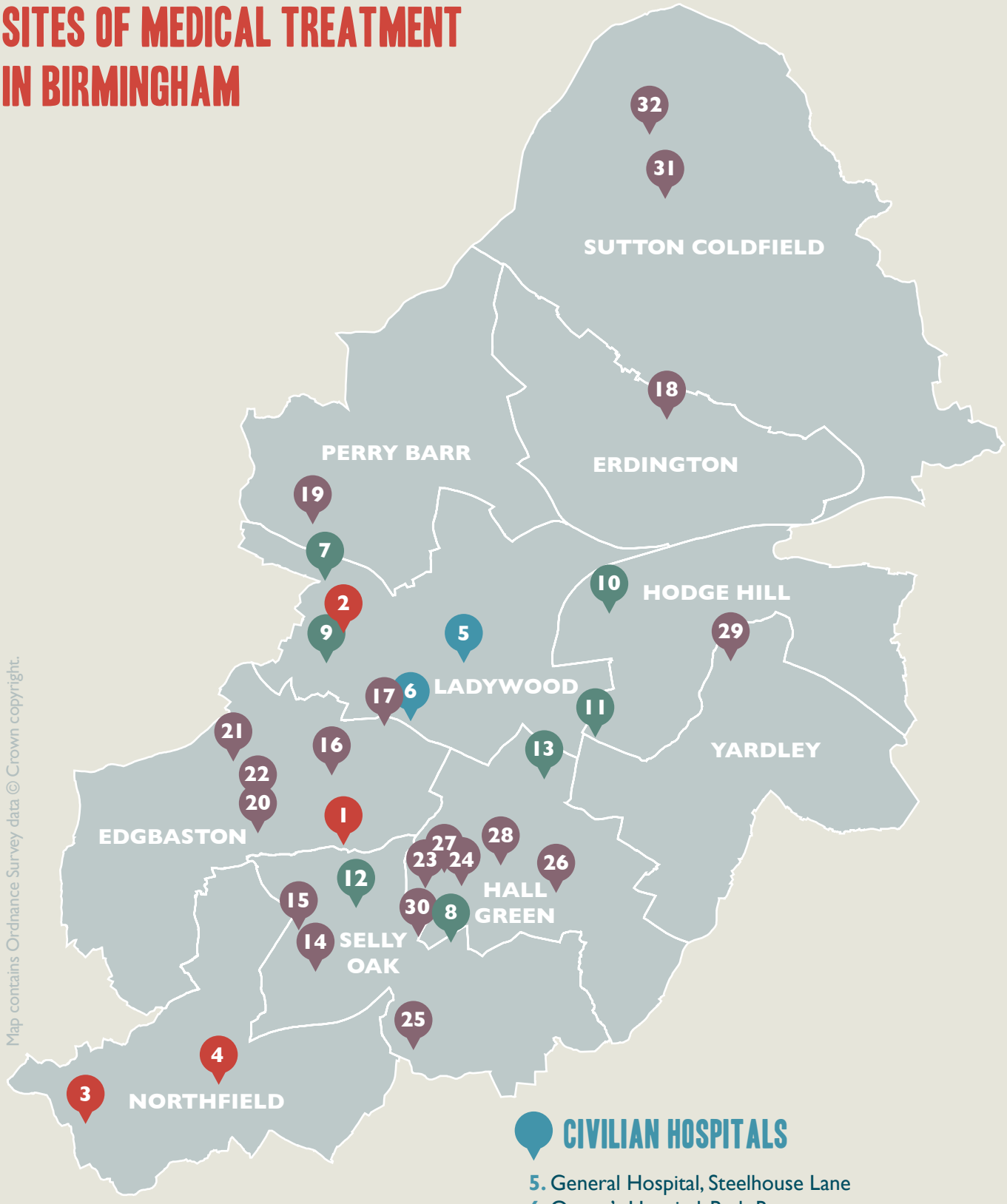
Local mental hospitals were also turned over to the war effort. Rubery Hill, known later as the 1st Birmingham War Hospital, opened in summer 1915, and Hollymoor became the 2nd Birmingham War Hospital.

More beds were needed as the war progressed and many large private houses were lent or donated by their owners, including The Beeches in Bournville, Farcroft in Handsworth, Highbury in Moseley, Lordswood in Harborne, Moor Green Hall in Moseley, The Norlands in Erdington, Stoneleigh in Stechford, and Uffculme in Kings Heath.

Civilian hospitals were also used. 100 beds at the General Hospital were placed at the disposal of the military in early 1914 and the Queen's Hospital in Bath Row treated wounded Belgian soldiers from October 1914. Local schools were also given up to the war effort.

Activities were organised by hospitals to keep the wounded soldiers occupied. There were workshops and classes, including at the city's School of Art, drama companies put on shows and many theatres would give soldiers free tickets to performances. At Christmas, wards were decorated and celebrations took place. There were over 7,000 hospital beds in Birmingham by the end of the war. By 1919, over 125,000 men had been treated in the city, including soldiers from Belgium, Serbia and America, along with New Zealand, Canada and Australia.

SITES OF MEDICAL TREATMENT IN BIRMINGHAM



MILITARY HOSPITALS

1. 1st Southern General (University of Birmingham)
2. 2/1st Southern General (Dudley Road)
3. 1st Birmingham War Hospital (Rubery Hill)
4. 2nd Birmingham War Hospital (Hollymoor)

CIVILIAN HOSPITALS

5. General Hospital, Steelhouse Lane
6. Queen's Hospital, Bath Row

LOCAL SCHOOLS USED AS HOSPITALS

7. Handsworth New Road, Handsworth
8. Colmore Road, Kings Heath
9. Barford Road, Ladywood
10. Highfield Road, Saltley
11. Somerville Road, Small Heath
12. Raddlebarn Council School, Selly Park
13. Conway Road, Sparkbrook

AUXILIARY HOSPITALS

14. The Beeches, Selly Oak Road, Bournville
15. Fircroft College, Bournville
16. Hillcrest, Richmond Hill Road, Edgbaston
17. Mayfield, Harborne Road, Edgbaston
18. The Norlands Hospital, Erdington
19. Farcroft, Handsworth
20. Harborne Hall, Harborne
21. Lordswood, Harborne
22. Stapylton House, St Peter's Road, Harborne
23. Moor Green Hall Hospital, Kings Heath
24. Uffculme, Kings Heath
25. Monyhull, Kings Norton
26. The Dingle, Moseley
27. Highbury Hall, Moseley
28. Sorrento, Moseley
29. Stoneleigh, Victoria Road, Stechford
30. Hazelwell Hall, Stirchley
31. Allerton, Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield
32. The Hollies, Four Oaks Road, Sutton Coldfield

1st and 2nd Birmingham War Hospitals:
The Birmingham City Asylum at Rubery Hill and its annexe at Hollymoor housed 1,100 and 930 beds respectively. The first military casualties were received on 5 July 1915 (Hollymoor) and 30 July 1915 (Rubery). The hospital at Rubery closed on 31 March 1919, having treated 20,015 casualties. Hollymoor closed on 1 March 1920, having treated 16,780 men. In the later stages of the war, it had been converted into a specialist Orthopaedic Hospital.

Fircroft College, Bournville:
George Cadbury handed the building over in November 1915 for use as a hospital and by February 1916 it was full. It closed as a hospital in 1918 but was then established as a convalescence home for discharged disabled soldiers.

Hillcrest and Harborne Hall:
Hillcrest was established in November 1914 and was the first to be operated by the Voluntary Aid Detachment, staffed by a St John's Ambulance Unit. It had only 30 beds, but soon moved to Harborne Hall and expanded to 126 beds. It was funded by donations from employees of the Avery munitions works. During the Somme campaign, the nurses had to resort to putting mattresses on top of billiard tables to accommodate the extra wounded.

Uffculme, Kings Heath:
The former home of Richard Cadbury had been used to house Belgian refugees in the early part of the war. It was then converted into a hospital, run by the Friends Ambulance Unit, in November 1916. In 1918, it became the regional limb fitting centre for soldiers living in the Midlands.

Monyhull, Kings Norton:
Monyhull Colony, a hospital for the mentally ill, was established in 1905. It was taken over for use as a military hospital in November 1916 with beds for 400. Around 5,000 patients were treated between 1916 and 1919. One section was set aside for the treatment of shell shocked soldiers.

Fircroft [LoB: MS 466/3a/83]

Mechanical Engineering Department ward [UoB: WK/E1/267]

1ST SOUTHERN GENERAL

Case Study 1

By the end of 1916, the total staff numbered 578. This included a principal matron, five matrons, two assistant matrons, 95 sisters, 206 staff nurses and 269 VADs. Visiting staff consisted of five physicians, eight surgeons, an ophthalmic surgeon and an anaesthetist.

Once the order for mobilisation was received on 4 August 1914, ten buildings at the University of Birmingham were quickly adapted for their new purpose and tents were also set up outside the Great Hall.

The first convoy of 120 sick and wounded men was received on 1 September. The initial convoys arrived at Moor Street Station, but later on they used Selly Oak Goods Station. In 1914, twenty-one convoys were received, two of them comprising Belgian soldiers.

Tables, chairs and all other typical university apparatus had been removed to make way for rows of beds and medical equipment. By 1 January 1918, the 1st Southern General and its other sections consisted of over 6,000 beds. As the war progressed the need for more beds increased. The opening of the 2/1st Southern General in 1915, provided an additional 1,000 beds.

Initially, nursing staff consisted only of sisters and staff nurses of the Territorial Force Nursing Society, but in May 1915, Voluntary Aid Detachment nurses were appointed. In an article of 1915, Gilbert Barling, Surgeon to the General Hospital and the 1st Southern General, wrote that the hospital was, to a large extent, used as a clearing hospital with many of the patients being transferred to smaller hospitals or convalescent homes. The nature of the wounds had varied, in Barling's experience, from shrapnel wounds to rifle bullet wounds, the majority of which were septic by the time the patient arrived in Birmingham. Barling notes the 'strained nervous systems of the wounded'. Amputations had been few and he had only seen one case of shell shock - suffered by a Belgian officer who presented almost 'complete loss of power in the lower extremities and much loss of sensation'. Barling observed that unless proper provision was made for treatment of similar cases recovery 'will be long delayed, and may not occur at all'.

The *Southern Cross* magazine first appeared in January 1916. It enabled patients to contribute written articles and poems, anecdotes and illustrations, although the content often made fun of the strict regime the soldiers lived under and revealed the soldiers' awareness that the doctors' aim was to return them to the front line as quickly as possible.

Highbury Gymnasium [LoB: MS 4616/17]

HIGHBURY HALL

Case Study 2

Highbury provided electrical and massage treatment, and had a well equipped gymnasium. Therapeutic workshops were provided in carpentry, tailoring, gardening, cooking, boot and shoe repairs, and making splints.

?

How did advances in healthcare made during WW1 influence how wounded servicemen and women are treated today?

During 1914 and 1915, several large private houses were lent or donated by prominent families in the city. Highbury, the former residence of Joseph Chamberlain, opened as a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) Hospital with 140 beds on 28 May 1915.

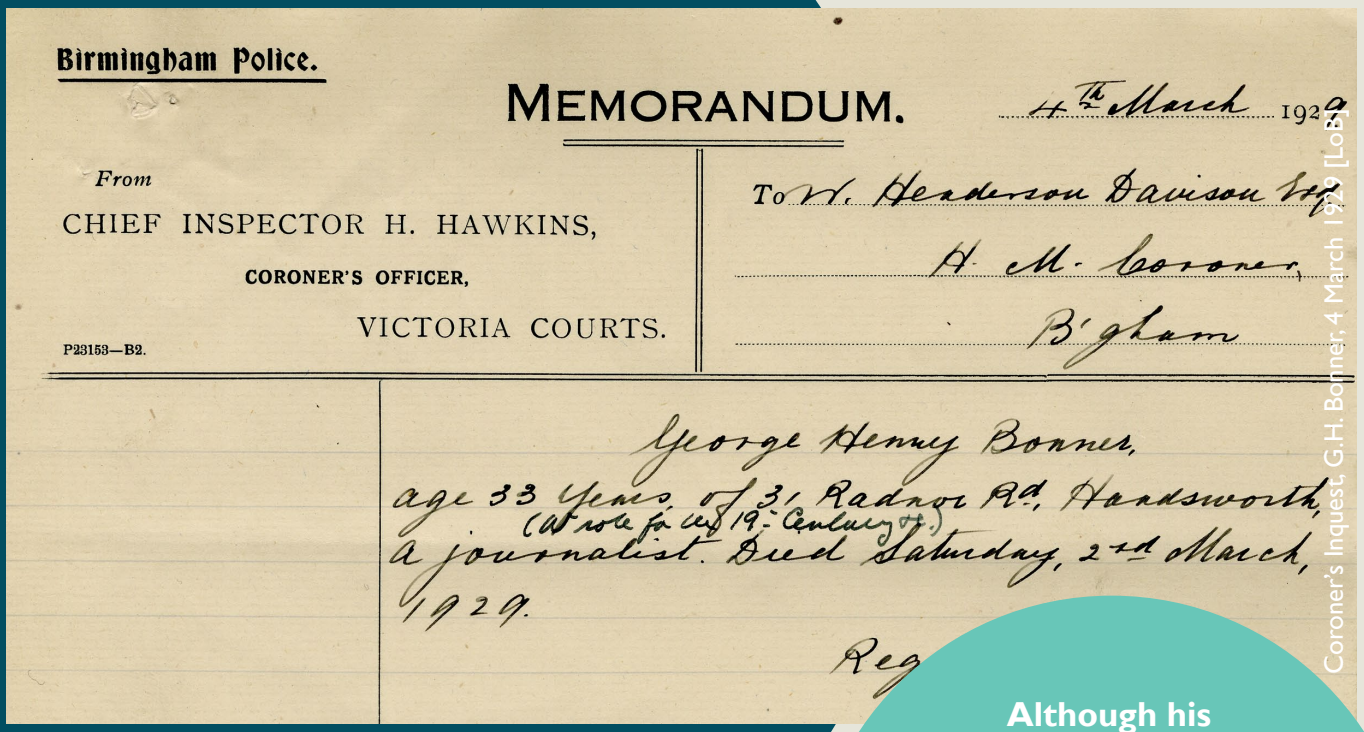
The equipment and fittings were paid for by the employees of Kynoch's works. Kynoch, a munitions producer, employed up to 16,000 people in Birmingham. Its workforce paid a weekly subscription from their wages for equipment for the wounded soldiers at Highbury and at Moor Green Hospital.

Over the course of the war Kynoch employees contributed £40,000 towards these hospitals through subscriptions. Public donations to keep hospitals going may explain the large number of 'official' photos we have of Highbury that give such a clear impression of the hospital and the treatments as subscribers would want to know that their donations were helping the returning wounded soldiers.

The hospital used all the available space in the house, turning large bedrooms into small wards and making use of existing facilities like the billiard room and the conservatories and the greenhouses.

Over time, more beds were added and the therapeutic workshops suggest that patients with neurological disorders such as shell shock would have been sent to Highbury.

From 1919 to 1932, Highbury Hall continued as a hospital for disabled ex-serviceman, showing the need that existed within the city for long term convalescence. Austen Chamberlain gave the buildings to be part of the Highbury Estate, managed by the Highbury Trustees, in 1919 and the Trustees handed the estate onto the City Council in 1932 for the benefit of the citizens of Birmingham.



Birmingham Police.

MEMORANDUM. 4th March 1929

From
CHIEF INSPECTOR H. HAWKINS,
CORONER'S OFFICER,
VICTORIA COURTS.

P23153—B2.

To W. Henderson Davison Esq.
H.M. Coroner,
Birgham

George Henry Bonner,
age 33 Years, of 31, Radnor Rd, Handsworth,
(Wrote for us 19 January)
a journalist. Died Saturday, 2nd March,
1929.

Reg

Coroner's Inquest, G.H. Bonner, 4 March 192[illegible] [Lo...]

HON. LIEUTENANT GEORGE HENRY BONNER

Case Study 3

Although his mother had never heard George threaten suicide, his wife, Eleanor, had told her 'when he had a bad attack during the night time he always wanted to get through the bedroom window and she had to haul him back'.

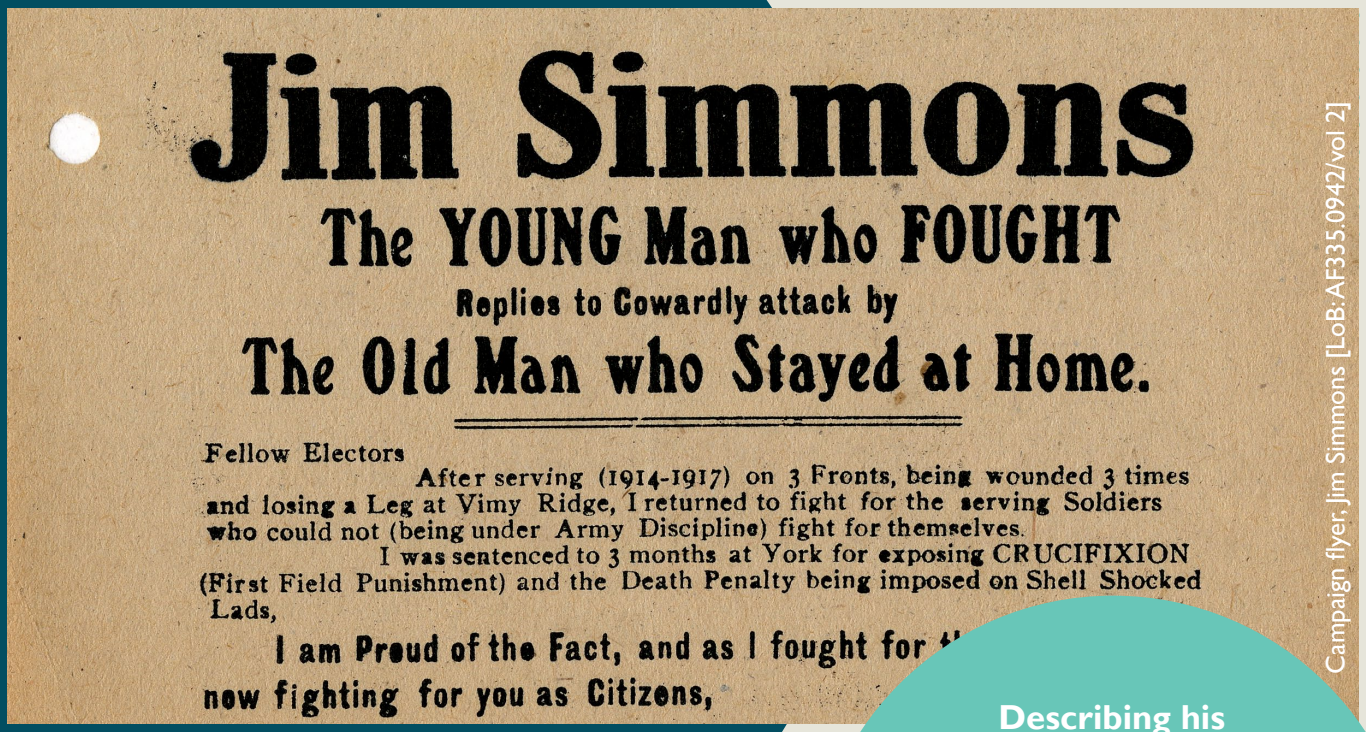
Not all war wounds were visible. On 2 March 1929, Hon. Lieutenant George Henry Bonner hung himself from his own bedroom window. At his inquest, his mother described how after his war service in France 'he was discharged with shell-shock, and he has suffered from it more or less ever since'.

George Bonner was born on 26 May 1895, son of Rev Henry Bonner, Minister of Hamstead Road Baptist Church. He was educated at King Edward's School, Birmingham, and went up to Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1914 before volunteering with the South Staffs Regiment. Transferred to the Royal Field Artillery (RFA) in June 1915 he served as a 2nd Lieutenant in an Anti-Aircraft Battery. His service record held at The National Archives shows that he was invalided home in December 1916. The Southern Medical Board recommended two months home leave.

Once declared fit for light duties, he was transferred to the RFA's 2A Reserve Brigade in Preston. His return to duty was short-lived however, as he was admitted to the 2nd Western General Hospital at Manchester in August 1917, and then to Quarry Brook House, a specialist neurological facility used for protracted cases.

Categorised as requiring treatment in a specialist unit for neurasthenia (a condition characterised by physical and mental exhaustion with accompanying symptoms such as headaches, insomnia and depression), he was moved to Craiglockhart Hospital in Edinburgh on 29 November. He arrived just after Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen had been discharged, but did edit several issues of *The Hydra*, Craiglockhart's in-house magazine, to which both had contributed.

On 19 March 1918, a Medical Board finally determined he was permanently unfit for further military service and he was discharged. Recovering sufficiently to return to Magdalen, in Trinity Term 1919, he received his BA in Classics on 17 December 1920. The following year he married Eleanor Mary Ford and their son, Augustine, was born in 1925. But, as the inquest record shows, he never fully recovered from his war experiences. It is not yet known, due to closure of records, whether he received any treatment at any civilian psychiatric hospital in Birmingham, or accessed any other services.



Jim Simmons

The YOUNG Man who FOUGHT

Replies to Cowardly attack by

The Old Man who Stayed at Home.

Fellow Electors

After serving (1914-1917) on 3 Fronts, being wounded 3 times and losing a Leg at Vimy Ridge, I returned to fight for the serving Soldiers who could not (being under Army Discipline) fight for themselves.

I was sentenced to 3 months at York for exposing CRUCIFIXION (First Field Punishment) and the Death Penalty being imposed on Shell Shocked Lads,

I am Proud of the Fact, and as I fought for [illegible]

now fighting for you as Citizens,

Campaign flyer, Jim Simmons [LoB:AF335.0942/vol 2]

'EX-PRIVATE' JIM SIMMONS

Case Study 4

Describing his amputation in his autobiography, Jim wrote: '…the measurement was important as wounded "tommies" were carved out into "sections" to ensure they did not get more than their "pound of flesh" when their pension was assessed'.

Jim Simmons was born at 30 Brighton Road, Moseley, on 9 April 1893. The son of Primitive Methodists, Jim became a lay preacher aged 16. He became increasingly concerned about the poverty in which people lived and converted to socialism in 1909. Influenced by the Christian Socialism of George Lansbury, he became a member of the Independent Labour Party (ILP).

In 1911, he enlisted in the Worcester Regiment to prove that he was not a coward. During WW1, he served in France where he was wounded in March 1915. Back in Britain, and recovering from his injuries, he preached in public meetings against the war and in favour of peace. In August 1915, he married Beatrice Kate Roberts, a domestic servant, and they went on to have four sons.

Simmons re-joined his unit and served in Gallipoli, Egypt and on the Western Front. In May 1916, he was wounded and some months later he had to have his lower leg amputated. After returning home he became prominent in the ILP anti-war campaigns and spoke all over the country. He was arrested in Rochdale in 1917 and described being 'escorted by the Military Police, on crutches, through the town' to the train station from where he was sent to Chester Castle where he was imprisoned.

Simmons was released on bail, after the Labour leader Ramsey MacDonald raised his case in Parliament. He was formally discharged in November 1917, after which he continued his peace campaigning as 'Ex-Private Simmons'. He was arrested again in March 1918 and sentenced to three months hard labour in Armley gaol. During the warders' searches of his cell he hid his pencil in his artificial leg so that he could keep writing. After his release, he worked as an ILP organiser and represented conscientious objectors at military tribunals.

After the war, Simmons went on to campaign on issues such as unemployment, homelessness and temperance. As a disabled former soldier, he also campaigned for the rights and welfare of ex-servicemen. He was angry about how ex-servicemen had been betrayed. They had been promised a land fit for heroes only to suffer from disability, poverty and unemployment on their return home. He was elected as a Labour Birmingham City Councillor in 1921 and was successfully elected as Member of Parliament for Erdington in 1929. He lost his seat in 1931, but was re-elected as an MP in 1945.

Highbury staff with Amy Porter in centre [LoB: MS 4616/17]

COMMANDANT, MRS AMY PORTER

Case Study 5

Insight into life at Highbury Hall for staff can be found in a personal photo album of a VAD nurse who worked there. Informal photographs with captions help us place where treatment took place, the kinds of injuries being treated and the names of some staff.

?

What else might a local newspaper report on, that would help research into people, events and places?

Highbury Hospital was staffed by a matron, eight nursing sisters and twenty-six VAD nurses and support staff. Overall charge was taken by Mrs Amy Porter who, because military terms were used for hospital staff treating wounded soldiers, was known as the Commandant. Two newspaper articles of the time give us some insight into Mrs Porter's service during the war and her own personal loss.

From *Birmingham Daily Post*, 6 November 1917:
'Mrs A. F. Porter, Lady Corps Superintendent of the Birmingham Nursing Corps, and Commandant of Highbury Hospital, has been appointed a Lady of Grace of the Order of St John. Mrs Porter has taken a notable part in the work of the St John Ambulance Association in Birmingham. When the war broke out she organised women's ambulance classes, and as commandant she took charge of the squad of women who met the first ambulance train that came into Birmingham. This squad not only met the train but fed the wounded, the arrangements for this first effort of the kind being made in little more than an hour. Since then, under Mrs Porter's direction, the rest station at Snow Hill has been organised and developed until it is now acknowledged to be not only the largest, but in all respects the best rest station in the country'.

From *Birmingham Daily Mail*, 18 March 1916:
'The funeral service of Sub-Lieutenant Angus Porter, of H.M.S Centurion, was held at the Birmingham Pro-Cathedral early this morning. The coffin, which was borne to the West Gate of the church on a gun carriage, was afterwards carried by Marines to Snow Hill Station, where it was entrained for Bristol. Lieutenant Porter, who was born in 1895, was the only son of Major Henry Cunningham Porter and Mrs Porter, the Commandant of the Highbury Military Hospital... A telegram from the King and Queen expressing sympathy with the bereaved parents and grief at the loss sustained by the Navy was received by Major and Mrs Porter this morning'.

Staff with jaw injury cases [LoB: MS 4616/5]

SURGEON, WILLIAM BILLINGTON

Case Study 6

Facial injuries were a common occurence on the front line. While trenches could provide protection to the soldiers' bodies, their heads were left vulnerable, with the lower part of their faces unprotected from gunfire by their helmets.

Born in Cheshire and educated in Shropshire, William Billington began his medical studies at Mason College, Birmingham and then King's College, London. In 1902 he was appointed surgeon to out-patients at Queen's Hospital and full surgeon in 1913. At the outbreak of war, Billington joined the 1st Southern General Hospital and was put in charge of the centre for jaw and facial injuries.

The use of new weapons, such as the machine gun, caused the types of injuries that surgeons had not seen before, presenting new challenges and ultimately the development of modern types of treatment and surgery.

In collaboration with dental colleagues Harold Round (one of the first to graduate from Birmingham Dental School) and A. H. Parrot, Billington did a great deal of original work in bone grafting and facial repair. They used methods devised by the surgeon Harold Gillies, which involved taking skin from one part of the body to another, risky because the skin had to remain attached in order to survive. Gillies had famously treated soldiers with facial injuries at a specially designed unit at Sidcup in south-east London, his work documented by the Solihull-born artist Henry Tonks.

Gillies's solution was to leave the flesh attached at one end, rolling it into a tube and attaching the other end near to where the graft was needed. This method, called the 'tube pedicle', allowed tissue to be moved without worrying about infection and the tube could remain in place for a period of time with little risk. Once the blood supply had grown into it from the new end, the original connection could be cut and the flesh swung into place.

Professor Jonathan Reinarz, Director of the History of Medicine Unit at the University of Birmingham, describes how, in injuries to the jaw, rib-bone was too soft and tibia too hard to be used as grafts. So, Billington's team employed grafts from the crest of the iliac, or hip bone, which were readily bevelled and more easily incorporated into their patient's damaged jaws. This work can only be described as revolutionary and was attempted at very few other clinics at this time.

Details of a patient treated by Billington:
www.brumpic.com/birmingham-innovations

Electrical treatment, Highbu [LoB: MS461617]

LEGACY

What happened after WW1 ended

'Hospitals were sites for the construction and reconstruction of soldiers' bodies, minds and identities. The objective was to send them back to the front, or to find ways of enabling them to contribute...'

Capital Cities at War, Paris, London, Berlin, 1914-1919
Jay Winter & Jean-Louis Robert (eds.)

?

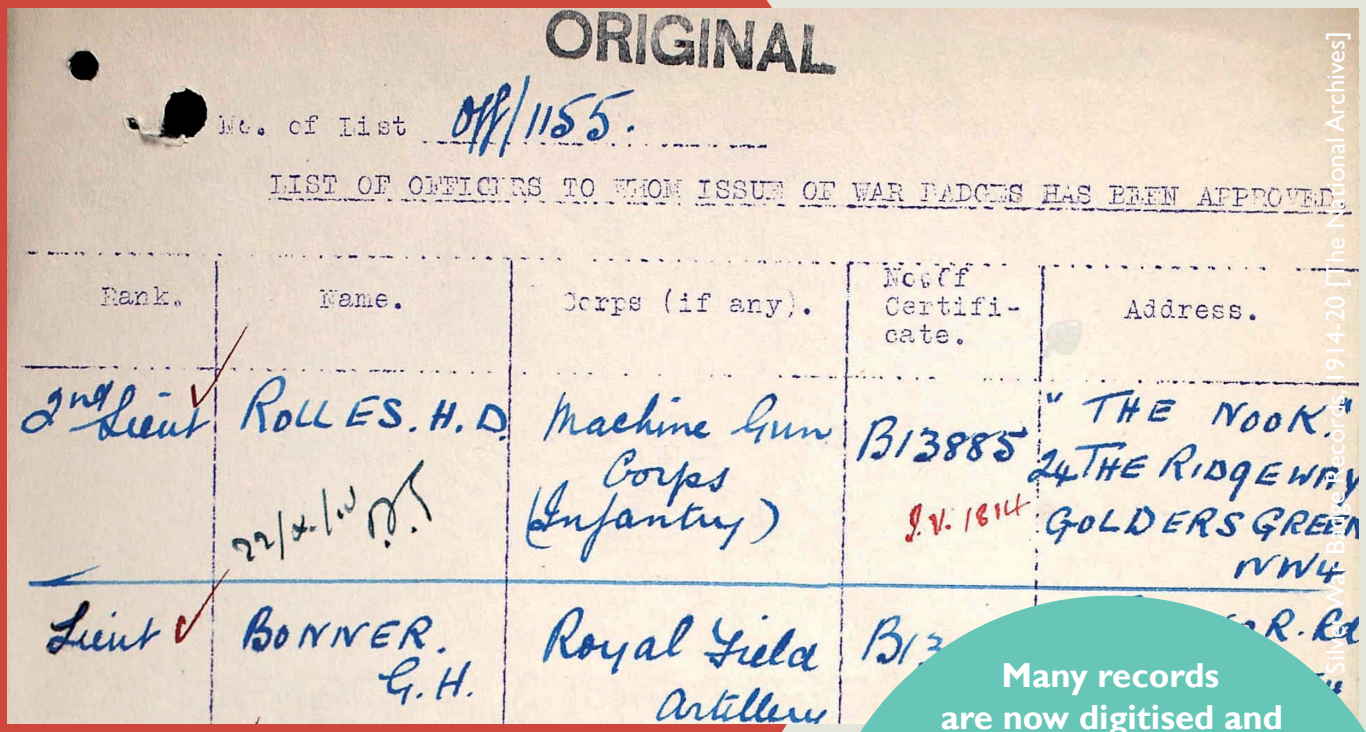
How do you think attitudes towards injured soldiers have changed over the past 100 years?

In Birmingham, 35,000 men returned after the war with serious injuries. In August 1918, there were discussions in the local newspapers about the provision that was needed for injured soldiers and Highbury and Uffculme were identified as sites suitable for the long term training and treatment of wounded men.

The effects of violent trauma continued to be felt after the war, demonstrated by the case of George Henry Bonner who hung himself in 1929, and in the case of a soldier who in 1921, when undergoing treatment at Hollymoor, attempted to shoot one of the nurses before committing suicide. Many stories about the impact of war upon soldiers and their families remain untold and are worthy of further research.

Over 40,000 men across the country had lost arms or legs while around two million men were permanently disabled. There was a great demand for artificial limbs, but they were often cumbersome until campaigning led to lighter ones being introduced. Sports and exercise were also increasingly used in therapeutic ways, and there was a new emphasis on curative treatments as seen at Highbury where soldiers could receive various forms of electrical therapy.

It was recognised after the war had ended that many of the wounded soldiers would need to learn new skills and trades to enable them to have some sort of independence. While this was provided by voluntary organisations, the government largely failed to provide enough resources and many men felt stigmatized as recipients of charity. This was further compounded by the emphasis that was placed on mourning the dead and comforting the bereaved as opposed to celebrating the men who had survived.



ORIGINAL

No. of List Off/1155.

LIST OF OFFICERS TO WHOM ISSUE OF WAR BADGES HAS BEEN APPROVED.

Rank.	Name.	Corps (if any).	No. of Certificate.	Address.
2nd Lieut	ROLLES. H. D. 22/2.1.W P.S.	Machine Gun Corps (Infantry)	B13885 I.V. 1814	"THE NOOK." 24 THE RIDGEWAY GOLDERS GREEN NW4
Lieut	BONNER. G. H.	Royal Field Artillery	B/3	R. Ed

[The National Archives, WO 339/B3, 914-20]

TRACING RELATIVES

How to research WW1

Many records are now digitised and searchable online, including *The National Archives, Ancestry, FindMyPast, British Red Cross,* and the *Commonwealth War Graves Commission:*
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk
www.ancestry.com
www.findmypast.co.uk
www.redcross.org
www.cwgc.org

There are so many aspects of World War One that it can be hard to take in. And sometimes, as with some of our case histories, it is only by focusing on an individual that we can begin to understand the true impact of the war for those who survived, as well as those who lost their lives. So, how easy is it? And, where do you start?

It depends to a certain extent on what information you already have as your starting point. Key information such as name, birth date, service and, importantly, service number, are vital to ensure that records you find actually relate to the right individual. You may already know some of these, but the service number in particular may be quite elusive.

If your subject survived the war, but was still in one of the services, they may be listed as an absent voter in the 1918 electoral register. This record includes their rank and service number. Birmingham's absent voters' lists can be viewed at the Library of Birmingham, or they can be searched online on *Ancestry* (free to use in most libraries).

The surviving service records for Army personnel below the rank of officer have been digitised and are available to search and view on *Ancestry* and *FindMyPast* although approximately 60% of them were destroyed by fire during WWII whilst they were stored at the War Office. Some of the gap has been filled by papers that were kept for pension purposes in a separate place and these can be searched on *Ancestry* but it does mean that the odds are against the service record of an individual to have survived. However, other records including those relating to service and/or gallantry medals may provide enough information to locate the individual with a specific serving unit and War Diaries may then give you information about the particular campaigns that your ancestor was involved with, even if they were not mentioned by name.

Officers' records have not been digitised and are most likely to be found at the National Archives in Kew. You can search their *Discovery* catalogue by name and also read a number of very helpful guides on their website.

For guidance about records available at the Library of Birmingham read: www.libraryofbirmingham.com/article/firstworldwar/worldwaroneresources

TELLS YOU WHAT THE CLUB DO
TO MAKE TWO COURSES OUT OF SEVERAL DISHES,
AND WHEN YOU'VE HALF A MIND TO RISK THE STEW
ANTICIPATES YOUR WISHES.
SHE NEVER KEEPS YOU WAITING JUST FOR SPORT,
WITHOUT A HITCH SHE BRINGS THE GORGONZOLA,
SHE GLOWS WITH PLEASURE AS SHE OFFERS PORT,
IN FACT, SHE IS A REGULAR TOP-HOLER
SOMETIMES.

Our Girls in Wartime [Photo: Rachel Gilles]

RESOURCES

Recommended reading & viewing

ARCHIVES

Cadbury Research Library, Special Collections, University of Birmingham:
Church Missionary Society Archives
Laurence Cadbury Papers, relating to the Friends Ambulance Unit
YMCA Archives

Birmingham Archives & Collections, Library of Birmingham:
1st Southern General photographs [MS 4616/5] and *The Southern Cross* magazine [MS 2046]
First World War postcards [MS 4067]
Highbury VAD Hospital records, 1915-1920 [MS 946] and Highbury photographs [MS 4616/17]
Jim Simmons Papers, Political and Trade Union Archive [AF335.0942]
War Hospital Committee minutes, 1915-20 [BCC 1/BS/1/1/3]

BOOKS AND ARTICLES

Gilbert Barling, 'Surgical Experiences at the 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham', *The British Medical Journal,* Vol. 1, No. 2822 (Jan. 30, 1915), pp. 190-192
Thekla Bowser, *The Story of British V.A.D. Work in the Great War* (1918, reprinted IWM, 2003)
Reginald H. Brazier & Ernest Sandford, *Birmingham and the Great War 1914-1919* (Cornish Brothers Ltd., 1921)
Mel Johnson, 'Simmons, Charles James (1893-1975)', *Oxford DNB* (Oxford University Press, 2013)
Jessica Meyer, *Men of War: Masculinity and the First World War in Britain* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009)
Sian Roberts, *Birmingham, Remembering 1914-18* (The History Press, 2014)
Jim Simmons, *Soap-Box Evangelist* (Janay Publishing Company, 1972)
Jay Winter & Jean-Louis Robert (eds.), *Capital Cities at War, Paris, London, Berlin, 1914-1919* (Cambridge University Press, 1999)

WEBSITES

Amputees Learn to use Artificial Limbs (1916), British Pathe - youtu.be/ztllMIZXc0o
Amputee Veterans at Queen Mary's Workshop (1914-1919), British Pathe - youtu.be/yDKZYib4n4s
BBC Schools, treating soldiers - www.bbc.co.uk/schools/0/ww1/25403866
BBC World War One at Home programme on the Southern General - www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01x8gk3
Auxiliary Hospitals attached to the 1st Southern General Hospital - www.1914-1918.net/southerngen.htm
Cadbury Research Library, Archival Resources for WW1 - *www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/cadbury/documents/srg/ww1-resources.pdf*
Cadbury Research Library Flickr Galleries - www.flickr.com/photos/cadburyresearchlibrary/albums
Considerable Derangement of Civilian Life: patriotism and protest in suburban Birmingham - www.suburbanbirmingham.org.uk
How Battle Tauma Spawned Surgical Advance - www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/impact/original/surgical-advance.aspx
How did WW1 change the way we treat war injuries today? - www.bbc.co.uk/guides/zs3wpv4
Impact of WW1 - historicengland.org.uk/research/inclusive-heritage/disability-history/1914-1945/war
Library of Birmingham, World War One Resources - www.libraryofbirmingham.com/article/firstworldwar/worldwaroneresources
Wounding in World War One - www.bl.uk/world-war-one/articles/wounding-in-world-war-one

Websites for Family History Research:
British Red Cross database - www.redcross.org.uk/About-us/Who-we-are/History-and-origin/First-World-War
British Newspaper Archive (subscription site) - www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk
Commonwealth War Graves Commission - www.cwgc.org
Family Relatives - www.familyrelatives.com
Forces War Records (subscription site) - www.forces-war-records.co.uk
The Great War 1914-1918 - www.greatwar.co.uk
In From the Cold - www.infromthecold.org
Imperial War Museum - www.iwm.org.uk/research/tracing-your-family-history
International Committee of the Red Cross - www.icrc.org/en/node/1
The Long, Long Trail, How to Research a Soldier - www.longlongtrail.co.uk
The National Archives - www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/first-world-war
Naval History - www.naval-history.net
Roll of Honour - www.roll-of-honour.com
Western Front Association, Research and Family History - www.westernfrontassociation.com

Project workshop [Photo: Rachel Gilles]

Filming during the project [Photo: Rachel Gilles]

ABOUT THE PROJECT

People's Heritage Co-operative

The PHC has also produced a short film documenting the project.

Both the learning guide and film are available on our website: www.phcooperative.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter too @PHCooperative

***Untold Stories: Birmingham's Wounded Soldiers from WW1* is a project by the People's Heritage Co-operative (PHC) and funded by a Heritage Lottery Fund *First World War Then and Now* grant.**

The project focuses on the untold stories of soldiers returning to Birmingham from the Great War with serious physical and psychological injuries. By mapping the sites of hospital treatment and convalescence that were set up in the city, the project explored what happened to the soldiers when they returned and after their treatment ended.

The PHC are a group of heritage professionals and creative practitioners working together to research, interpret and produce accessible community history. Established in 2014, the PHC works to promote and raise awareness of people's heritage. On this project, members of the PHC worked with:
Douglas Smith and pupils from Swanshurst School
Professor Jonathan Reinarz, University of Birmingham
Martin Killeen and Helen Fisher, Cadbury Research Library, University of Birmingham
Library of Birmingham
Jenny Peevers from Creative Health CIC
Sound artist Justin Wiggan
Lt Col Steve Jeffery, RCDM, Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Project talk by Prof Jonathan Reinarz [Photo: Rachel Gilles]